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22 November 1963

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CENTRAL

INTELLIGENCE

BULLETIN



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STATE review(s) completed.

GROUP 1
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DAILY BRIEF

Congo-USSR: The entire staff of the Soviet Embassy in Leopoldville has been declared persona non grata.)

For at least a month, the Leopoldville Government Teaders have been debating ways to curb Soviet bloc missions, which represent Czechoslovakia, Poland, and Bulgaria, as well as the USSR. In October, the Congolese charged that "certain foreign embassies" were encouraging antigovernment elements and trying to incite an army revolt. Premier Adoula had indicated subsequently that he planned to expel the Soviet and Czech missions, but not to break relations.

two Soviet diplomats arrested in Leopoldville on 19 November
were giving financial assistance to Congolese
leftist exiles in Brazzaville. Soviet bloc representatives have long been in contact with dissident Congolese groups, but have shown skepticism concerning
their capabilities.

(UN Secretary General Thant has sent a strong note to Adoula protesting the treatment of the arrested Soviet diplomats. Thant acted after the Soviet ambassador had twice asked the chief of the UN mission in the Congo for help.)

The US mission in New York believes that the episode--coming on top of indications that Ethiopia and Indonesia will withdraw from the UN Congo operation--

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*Syria-Iraq: Syrian Premier Hafiz has moved publicly to settle differences with Iraq arising from Monday's coup there.

At a press conference in Damascus, Hafiz endorsed the Iraqi Army's move against the national guard-the Baath Party's paramilitary organ-and praised Iraqi President Arif as a "brave Arab soldier." Hafiz took issue with some of the more extreme statements of the new regime regarding the national guard, but admitted that it had committed "misdeeds."

Hafiz and other Syrian Baath leaders undoubtedly recognize that they must maintain relatively close relations with the new Iraqi regime—which retains some Baathists—because of the recent Baathist loss of prestige and increased Nasirist pressure on the Syrian Government.

Hafiz indicated, however, that his government would continue to support the Syrian branch of the national guard. The Syrian regime may adopt a less doctrinaire line while seeking wider public support. Hafiz left the door open to some accommodation with former Baathists who were read out of the party in 1961.

NOTES

Brazil: President Goulart strongly emphasized his lack of support for the Alliance for Progress in a private conversation this week with Under Secretary Harriman and Ambassador Gordon. He commented that the alliance is "poorly regarded in Latin America, especially among the popular masses," and alleged that the absence of large-scale US aid to Latin America is a major reason for the disillusionment with the alliance. Ambassador Gordon believes that Goulart's criticisms and his failure to offer constructive ideas in large part reflect the continuing decline in the quality of his immediate advisers.

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Greece: (Premier Papandreou, whose Center Union won a slim plurality of parliamentary seats in the 3 November elections, has publicly called for dissolution of parliament and new general elections on 26 January. King Paul, who retains the prerogatives to dissolve parliament and to proclaim new elections, reportedly does not want early elections but probably would be most reluctant to cross Papandreou publicly while the premier enjoys strong popular support. Although Papandreou appears to believe that his party could score a major victory in a new contest, his move may also be a threat designed to pressure the major opposition party led by former Premier Karamanlis into granting him a vote of confidence when parliament convenes on 11 December.)

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Yugoslavia - Egypt - Neutral States: (Tito reportedly will visit Nasir in early December to discuss their plans for convening a second neutralist summit conference. Tito will almost certainly argue that a number of states not previously associated with the group, such as Japan, Sweden, Finland, and additional Latin American countries, be invited to the conference. The foreign ministers of some neutralist states will reportedly meet in Cairo in January to prepare formally for the conference.

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West Germany - Czechoslovakia: Bundestag Vice President Dehler expects negotiations before the end of the year for an exchange of trade missions with Czechoslovakia. Dehler visited Prague in mid-November--apparently with Bonn Foreign Ministry approval-and was received by President Novotny. Novotny has recently indicated a willingness to follow the lead of Poland, Rumania, and Hungary in formalizing trade relations with Bonn.

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*Italy: The four party negotiations for a center-left government have reached agreement on some important issues, but have been snagged, at least temporarily, by continuing disagreement over other aspects of what ought to go into a common program. Important among these is the Socialist insistence on the decentralization of a powerful agricultural trust which always has been one of the Christian Democrats' main pillars of strength. Another cardinal point in the program—the establishment of regional administrations—may be upset by a recent decision of the Socialists in the Aosta Valley area to enter the local government in coalition with the Communists.

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The Under Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

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